

MINUTES  
OF THE  
THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION  
OF THE  
**Current River Baptist  
Association**



Held with Union Baptist Church,  
Walnut Ridge, Ark. Sept. 14-15-16, 1916



ELD. W. F. BRIDGES, Moderator  
D. BLACKBURN, Clerk



Next Session to be Held with Moark Baptist Church,  
Moark, Ark., Thursday Before the Third Sun-  
day in September, 1917.

# PROCEEDINGS

The Current River Baptist Association met with Union Church this 14th day of September, 1916, at 10 o'clock. After singing, and a prayer led by Bro. Lincoln, the Association went into the matter of electing a secretary pro tem. D. Blackburn was elected. Bro. Sherrill delivered the address of welcome.

The services were opened by Bro. R. L. Powell reading the 24th Psalm. Singing by choir. Bro. Powell preached the introductory sermon, "Jesus Mighty to Save."

Adjourned to meet at 2 p. m. Dismissed by Brother Bridges.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing No. 52, "I Love to Tell the Story." Bro. Powell read 133rd Psalm. Prayer by Bro. Bridges. Song, "Down at the Cross." Appointed a Committee on Committees: Bros. John Henderson, J. L. Colson, John McElmurry, T. A. Rasnic, A. Berry. Letters from the churches as follows:

Landmark—R. L. Powell, Rosa Wertenberger and Norma Snodgrass.

Moark—Wiley Colson, Jim Creason and George Lafferty

Datto—J. E. Henderson and A. Berry.

Pleasant Grove—L. Tyler and A. Rasnic.

New Liberty—J. H. Arnold and J. W. McElmurry.

Reyno—D. Blackburn, J. Harvey, J. A. Wheatley.

Union—D. W. Fender, E. G. Ivy, W. F. Bridges.

Mt. Pleasant—Herbert Ennis.

New Home—Joe Redwine, Tom Redwine, I. D. Redwine.

Success—Bro. Asher, M. M. Edwards.

Hopewell—M. L. Russell.

Mt. Pleasant—J. A. Gambill, Ben Gibbs, Sister Hawkins.

Association then elected Brother Bridges Moderator and D. Blackburn, Clerk.

Reports of Committee on Committees:

EDUCATION—C. B. Moltby, J. W. Harvey, J. J. Cates, E. G. Ivy.

WOMAN'S WORK—E. T. Lincoln, Mrs. Wertenberger, Norma Snodgrass.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—W. F. Bridges, A. Berry, J. A. Wheatley.

STATE MISSIONS—R. L. Powell, Tom Redwine, J. E. Sherrill.

RESOLUTIONS—J. A. Gambill, D. W. Fender, J. B. Gibbs.

TEMPERANCE—M. L. Russell, J. A. Wheatley, L. Tyler.

DISTRICT MISSIONS—J. E. Sherrill, T. A. Rasnic, J. W. McElmurry.

OBITUARIES—G. W. Asher, L. Tyler, A. Berry.

HOME MISSIONS—W. R. McEwin, W. A. Cummings, Bunk Arnold.

FOREIGN MISSIONS—W. R. McEwin, D. W. Fender, C. B. Moltby.

ORPHANS' HOME—J. E. Sherrill, D. W. Fender, E. G. Ivy.

FINANCE—J. M. Redwine, J. B. Gibbs, J. A. Gambill.

DIVINE SERVICE—Pastor and Messengers of Union Church.

Visiting brethren present: Bro. E. G. Elliott, Walnut Ridge; Bro. J. J. Cates, Pocahontas; E. T. Lincoln, Maynard; W. R. McEwin, Jonesboro; J. Q. Pond, State Line Association; C. B. Moltby, Cave Creek; J. E. Sherrill, Mt. Vernon Association; pastor and State Evangelist. Colt, Ark.; W. A. Cummings, Principal Ouachita-Maynard Academy; J. L. Brown, Macedonia Association.

Adjourned until 9 a. m., Sept. 15th. Prayer by Brother Sherrill.

### NINE O'CLOCK, SEPT. 15

Open service by singing, "This is My Story." Lesson read by Brother Lincoln. Malachi 3rd. chapter. Prayer by Brother Lincoln. Song, "Bringing in the Sheaves." Services announced for 8 p. m. by W. R. McEwin of Jonesboro, general missionary of Northeast Arkansas, Subject: "Baptist Opportunity." Text: "Ye are the Light of the World."

Report of District Missions read and approved. Adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m. Preaching at 11, a. m., by Rev. J. J. Cates of Pocahontas. Subject: "The two Salvations overcometh," in Rev. 1, 2, and 3. Prayer by Brother Bridges.

### 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Reading 23rd Psalm, prayer by Brother, J. L. Brown. A petitionary letter from New Harmony was received and messenger enrolled. C. Watkins, pastor.

### Report of Orphans' Home

Collection for Orphans' Home.....	\$13 95
Hopewell pledged.....	1 00
Moark pledged.....	11 00
Reyne pledged.....	10 00
Union pledged.....	10 00
Pleasant Valley pledged.....	3 00
Total.....	<hr/> \$35 00

Report on State Missions read and approved.

Report on Education read and approved.

Report on Publications read and approved.

Report on Woman's Work read and approved.

Report on Temperance read and approved.

Adjourned to meet at 8:30, Sept. 15th.

8 O'CLOCK P. M.

Divine Services conducted by J. L. Brown. Text: "Ye are the Light of the World."

9 O'CLOCK, SEPT. 16

Prayer by Brother Cummings.

Report on Obituaries read and adopted.

Moark was unanimously chosen as the place to hold our next Association.

Report on Ordained Ministers read and adopted.

Report of Finance Committee:

For Orphans' home .....	\$ 6 00
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For State Missions .....	10 00
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For Printing Minutes .....	25 00
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Total .....	<u>\$41 50</u>
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Motion made and carried that each church take a collection in December for the purpose of raising funds with which to erect a monument to the memory of Elder A. Conner.

Report on Foreign Missions read and adopted.

Bro. J. A. Wheatley was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the next Association, which is to meet at Moark; Bro. J. L. Brown, alternate.

Superintendents of Missionary work elected: A. Berry, Ben Legate, Success, H. P. Booth, Reyno; J. L. Colson, Moark; Ben Gibbs, Success.

Adjourned to meet with Moark church on Thursday before the third Sunday in September, 1917.

W. F. Bridges, Moderator,

D. Blackburn, Clerk.

Divine services at 11 o'clock, conducted by Eld. W. A. Cummings.

### Licensed and Ordained Ministers

W. T. Caldwell, Neeleyville, Mo.

J. A. Wheatley, Reyno, Ark.

J. F. Spriggs, Corning, Ark.

D. Sharp, Pitman, Ark.

Geo. Lafferty, Moark, Ark.

C. A. Fowler, Supply, Ark.

T. Watson, Datto, Ark.

W. F. Bridges, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

R. L. Powell, Corning, Ark.



Will Shivley, Pittman, Ark.  
 J. C. Grider, Neeleyville, Mo.  
 John Wilson, Datto, Ark.  
 J. W. Harvey, Reyno, Ark.  
 J. D. Hayes, Corning, Ark.  
 E. Rennard, Piggott, Ark.  
 S. N. Dickerson, Corning, Ark.  
 C. Watkins, Dellaplaine, Ark.

### Minute Fund

Reyno.....	\$2 00
Union.....	2 00
Moark.....	2 00
Mt. Pleasant, East.....	2 00
Datto.....	1 50
New Liberty.....	1 50
New Home.....	2 50
Land Mark.....	1 10
Pleasant Grove.....	1 50
Success.....	1 50
Hopewell.....	1 50
Mt. Pleasant, West.....	1 00
New Harmony.....	50
Total.....	<u>\$20 60</u>

### Foreign Missions

We, your committee on Foreign Missions, report as follows:

We find that our churches have utterly failed to present and support this great cause, so far as the minutes show. This is, we believe, leaving off a part of the Commission of Christ to His churches, "to preach the Gospel to every creature." During the year there have been 6471 converts baptized on Baptist foreign mission fields by our missionaries. 77 churches have been organized. We now have 318 missionaries in the various heathen lands.

We recommend that all pastors preach upon this question, giving the people the facts and figures concerning foreign missions. 2. That they take collections and send the same to the heathen countries.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. Cummings,

D. W. Fender,

C. B. Moltbie.

### District Missions

We, your committee on District Missions, beg to report that there is still destitution in our borders, and we recom-

mend that this association employ one or more missionaries in the bounds of this association to go to such point or points as this association may appoint for the purpose of building up the weak points and make them self-sustaining, and to try to organize churches where there are none, that the preacher selected shall meet with the approval of the people of the community, so far as possible. The association is to locate the field of labor and the time at which the meeting is to be held, and that the missionary receive not less than \$2.00 per day for each day's actual service, and that he shall report all the work done at each place, together with all collections received to go on his salary, that cash and pledge collections be taken at this meeting for the same, that a committee of five be appointed, composed of a secretary and treasurer and three others, whose duty it shall be to meet quarterly and receive reports of these missionaries.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. McElmurry,

T. A. Rasnick,

J. E. Sherrill.

### State Missions

By State Missions we mean the preaching of the Gospel in our own state, especially in destitute places where there are no churches. If the people of our dear old state ever hear the Gospel the Baptists must give it to them, for it was to the church my Lord said, Matt. 28: 19-20: "Go teach all nations," etc., and if we refuse to send our missionaries, we surrender the field to organizations of men, who hold to and preach false doctrines and by our refusal to send a pure Gospel we become co-workers with them in spreading this false doctrine. It seems to me that loyal Baptists would blush with shame when they hear the reports read from the churches that compose the Current River Association and see so little done in this great work. The reports from all the churches so far, show only about \$25.00 paid for State Missions this year. Brother pastors, you are all pledged to this association to hold State Missions before your people. Have you done so? Brethren, you owe your missionaries something like \$500.00 for work done last year, besides, so far as I know, not one of them has received anything for work done this year. They are going without their money and their families are in need of it. Are we going to continue so carelessly in the future? Let every lover of the truth, say that for the sake of the Truth I will do something for State Missions and will do it now. Brethren, are you satisfied with what you have done for this great work, and with the present conditions? Away down in your heart center you are bound to say, no! Do

Do you want the cause to prosper in Arkansas? If so, you will say: "God being my helper, I will do what I can to preach the Gospel in my State.

J. E. Sherrill,  
Tom J. Redwine.

### Sunday Schools

As Sunday schools are such a great factor in our Lord's work, we should urge that each member of the church and every member of the family, become members of the Sunday school.

J. A. Wheatley,  
A. Berry.

### Obituaries

We, your committee on obituaries, beg leave to report that the messenger of death has called nine brethren and sisters during the past year. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved, and though we mourn, we do not as those who have no hope. We should thank God for His blessings in taking so few. Who will be next?

Respectfully submitted,  
G. W. Asher.

### Publications

We, your committee on publications, recommend a careful study of God's word, and we further urge that our Sunday schools use Lankmark literature, and we further urge that our association read other religious and sound patriotic literature.

C. B. Maltbie,  
J. L. Coulson,  
I. D. Redwine.

### Woman's Work

We, your committee on Woman's Work, would report as follows:

We find that woman's work is a great help in our church, and we would recommend that each of our churches, if they have not Ladies Aid Societies, that they organize, as these organizations are of great benefit to our church in carrying out the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

E. T. Lincoln,  
Rosa Wertenberger,  
Norma Snodgrass.

### Education

Education, without being tempered with the principles of Christ, is like a surgeon's knife which has not been sterilized.

bearing on it's point the germs of infidelity, which naturally come from the minds of unregenerate teachers. The Alwise Father has put it into the hearts of Godly men and women throughout our state to give their money, to establish schools taught and controlled by men and women who fear God.

The teaching in our Baptist schools is not the only thing that should recommend itself for our consideration. Our boys and girls come in contact with the ones they are going to accept as their ideals in the formation of their characters.

We, your committee, recommend that our members send their boys and girls to our own schools, and give of our means for their support. We also recommend that any young man or woman in our bounds, who feels called to a special work, be assisted financially in their efforts to prepare for the work.

Our school at Maynard offers free tuition and some financial help to young preachers, and we, your committee, recommend that our churches take a money collection at the earliest opportunity for the purpose of helping Bro. Charles Maltbie to enter Maynard Academy.

J. W. Harvey,  
Jeff J. Cates,  
E. G. Ivey.

### Temperance

We are glad to report that there has been a great awakening in our great State on the Temperance question in the last few years, in which the Baptists have had their part. Therefore, we would urge a stronger fight against this great evil in the future than has been in the past. We would further recommend that each pastor of this association urge the people to vote against Act No. 2 in the coming election.

J. A. Wheatley.  
L. D. Tyler,  
M. L. Russell.

### Orphans' Home

We, your committee, recommend that we request the churches of this association to take regular collections for our Texarkana Orphans' Home. There are now 41 children in the home and they are looking to us for support. Will you heed their cry for bread and clothing? Jesus taught His disciples to care for the widow and orphan, so let every member of this association go to work for the support of this home. The home is in debt and children are in need of clothing for the winter. Will you help? May the God of the orphan put it into your



hearts to do something for the home.

For the Committee,

J. E. Sherrill.

### Resolutions

We, your committee, offer the following resolutions:

1. That we extend our heartfelt thanks to the Union church, especially the sisters, for their kind hospitality during our stay with them.

2. We also extend our gratitude to our Moderator and Clerk for their faithful services. We recommend that our Clerk have the supervision of printing and distributing the minutes and that he receive \$1.00 for his services and that if any deficiency exists in the matter of expenses that it be made up now.

3. That we adjourn to meet with the Moark church Thursday before the third Sunday in September, 1917, and Bro. J. A. Wheatley preach the introductory sermon, Bro. W. F. Bridges, alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Harvey,

J. B. Gibbs,

J. A. Gambill.

# Statistical Table

CHURCH	Day of Meeting	PASTOR	CLERK	ADDRESS	Membership					Paid Pastor	Sunday School	Orphans Home	Incidentals	Membership	Value of Church Property
					In-crease		De-crease								
					Baptism	Letter	Restoration	Letter	Death						
New Home		W. A. Cummings	I. D. Redwine	Supply, Ark.	5				1	\$ 71.00		\$2.55	\$ 1.00	51	\$890
Moark		R. L. Powell	L. Collins	Corning, Ark.	5	1	1	4		53.15		5.75	15.00	89	
New Liberty		E. T. Lincoln	J. McElmurry	Biggers, Ark.		1			2	168.00			12.00	63	300
Independence	4	Otto Levorette	W. E. Trentlebaum	Neeleyville, Mo.	3			1	1	42.20		2.25		105	
Datto	1-3	Knox Belew	Bettie Cheek	Datto, Ark.	1	15			1	229.50		6.00	55.00	139	
Pleasant Grove		W. T. Caldwell	L. D. Tyler	Palatka, Ark.	9	1				25.75				85	1000
Mt. Pleasant East		R. L. Powell	R. R. Block	Palatka, Ark.			3			64.05			20.00	75	800
Hopewell	4	S. N. Dickinson	M. L. Russell	Datto, Ark.	21			5	3	14.25			11.50	90	
Union		J. E. Sherrill	J. H. Story	Walnut Ridge Ark	5	1		1	3	200.00		6.00		222	1000
Success	4		Mary Sprague	Success, Ark.						62.00				112	
Mt. Pleasant West	1-3	D. H. Sharp	Myra Gerrish	Pitman, Ark.	13				1					117	
Reyno		W. A. Cummings	Ella Adams	Reyno, Ark.				7		279.00		5.00		58	
Landmark		R. L. Powell	Rosie Wertenberger	Corning, Ark.	9		1	1		42.00			19.50	71	

227  
271  
508

2-25-68

1257.00 / 2765 / 13490  
1353\*

2-3-68 26-38 1/2